THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: (a) & (b) The Factories Act, 1948, is applicable to beedi factories wherein 10 or more persons with power or 20 or more persons without power are employed.

Sree Rama Industries

*149 Q.—SRI S. PAKKIRISAMI PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether the brass foundry known as Sree Rama Industries, Innamboor, Kumbakonam, has been closed recently by the management without notice; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to reopen it?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: (a) The management declared a lock-out on 12th December 1957.

(b) The Labour Officer, Tiruchirappalli, enquired into the matter and brought about a settlement. The factory was reopened on 21st December 1957.

Prime Minister's Visit to Madras

*150 Q.—SRI T. S. RAMASWAMY PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Transport buses damaged during the disturbances on the day of the visit of the Prime Minister to the Madras City recently; and

(b) the total loss to the Transport Department?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: (a) Thirty-three.

(b) About Rs. 50,000.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM: Sir, was the responsibility fixed upon the culprits who were responsible for the burning of buses?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Sir, this question relates to the loss and I am prepared to speak with regard to the financial loss.

Adulteration of Ammonium Sulphate

*152 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state whether any steps have been taken to prevent the adulteration of ammonium sulphate with sodium chloride?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: Adulteration of ammonium sulphate is an offence punishable under clause 13 (iii) of the Fertiliser (Control) Order, 1957, which is in force in this State from 1st September 1957. Some cases of suspected adulteration of ammonium sulphate with sodium chloride have been brought to the notice of the Director of Agriculture and he has issued instructions to his subordinates in charge of the enforcement of the Fertiliser (Control) Order to intensify inspection of fertilisers kept